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BRANFORD TRAIL:

STONY CREEK

Branford, CT

The 28-mile Branford Trail is a unique trail that borders a majority of the town's perimeter. The white circle blazed trail passes through the shoreline, wetlands, many town parks, northerly woodlands, and many Branford Land Trust properties. The trail is separated into eight sections that begins and ends at a public road with space for parking. Every home in Branford is within 15-minutes walking time of a trail. The entire Branford trail is best walked in a counter-clockwise direction.

This 3.2 mile section of the Branford Trail features the Stony Creek area of Branford. Stony Creek is a little fishing village and summer resort that has been permanently settled since the 1800s and is nestled among the inlets of the Sound.

The trail crosses the Stony Creek area and hugs the Guilford town line as it moves northward.

The trail crosses Jarvis Creek on a concrete structure and continues onto Leetes Island Road (Route 146). At the railroad underpass, the trail turns north through the woods and over several hills to the Stony Creek Quarry Preserve parking lot. The trail also passes through some wetlands which may generally be muddy and specifically during the rainy season.

The Thimble Islands, named for the thimbleberry, a relative of the black raspberry, are an archipelago of small islands off the coast of Branford's Stony Creek area. They were known to the Mattabesset Indians as "the beautiful sea rocks" and they consist of a jumble of granite rocks, ledges, and outcroppings resulting from glaciations. The islands number between 100 and 365 depending on where the line is drawn between an island and a mere rock.

Photo from SCRCOG archives



Directions and Parking:

Parking for this portion of the Branford Trail is at the ball field on West Point Road or around the monument on Thimble Island Road.

Permitted Activities:

This trail follows public and private roads. When adjacent to private property please respect resident's privacy. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste.

For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
(203) 488-8394, ext. 120

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